

**Amendments to the Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) An illumination apparatus projecting light forward, comprising:  
  
a light source;  
  
~~a first reflecting mirror forward projecting means~~ positioned in front of said light source for receiving light from said light source to project the light forward;  
  
a second reflecting mirror enclosing said light source and said forward projecting means for directing and reflecting forward the light from said light source;  
  
a light source-fixing member fixing said light source at a rear end thereof, enclosing said second reflecting mirror, and having an opening in the front end thereof;  
  
a transparent protective cover joined to a front end of said first reflecting mirror forward projecting means to cover said opening of said light source-fixing member,  
  
distance varying means including a screw mechanism connecting said protective cover and said light source-fixing member that can vary a distance between said first reflecting mirror forward projecting means and said light source.
2. (Currently Amended) The illumination apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said second reflecting mirror is a parabolic mirror, and said light source is positioned at a focus of the parabolic mirror.
3. (Currently Amended) The illumination apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first reflecting mirror forward projecting means is a Fresnel lens having a stepped surface arranged on a plane on opposite side of said light source,  
  
the illumination apparatus further comprising transparent air-blocking means provided in front of said Fresnel lens to prevent said Fresnel lens from being exposed to air.

4. (Currently Amended) The illumination apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said ~~forward-projecting means~~ first reflecting mirror is a small-diameter reflecting mirror having an aperture smaller than that of said second reflecting mirror.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Original) The illumination apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said light source is an LED (Light Emitting Diode).

8. (Previously presented) The illumination apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said screw mechanism comprises complementary threads at the front end of said light source-fixing member and on said protective cover.